



**2ND MEETING
SMALL BUSINESS SUBGROUP**

MEETING MINUTES

**JULY 6TH, 2010
10:00 AM**

**THE STATE CAPITOL
HOUSE ROOM 1
Richmond, Virginia**

Subgroup Members Present:

John Biagas
Mel Chaskin
Julia Hammond
Andrea Kilmer
Fred Thompson

I. Call to Order

John Biagas, Chair, called to order the 2nd meeting of the Small Business Subgroup at 10:07 AM on Tuesday, July 6th, 2010, in the Capitol Building in Richmond, VA.

II. Roll Call

Michael Hardy, Subgroup Lead Staff called role. A quorum was present.

III. Introductions

Brief introductions were made by members, staff, and guests.

IV. Minutes

Minutes from the 1st subgroup meeting were reviewed and approved.

V. Presentations

Peter Su, the Director of the Department of Business Assistance, gave a presentation on the programs DBA offers and the Small Business Financing Authority (SBFA). Patti Thorn, from the SBFA, spoke in further detail as well.

Courtney Malveaux, the Commission of the Department of Labor and Industry, gave a presentation on the Registered Apprenticeship Program that DoLI offers.

VI. Break

The subgroup took a short break from 11:50 AM – 12:05 PM.

VII. Goals/Strategies/Research

Each subgroup member presented their research on their assigned vision strategies. Initial ideas and recommendations included: more staffing for DBA; shortage of personnel to write grants; small businesses need a fund like the Governor's Opportunity Fund; need more programs designed to help start up businesses; lack of marketing funding prevents DBA and other organizations from helping small businesses; lack of a coordinated marketing effort; small businesses should be announced and celebrated the way large corporate accomplishments are; we need to do a better job accommodating different businesses needs; focus on education and workforce development; baby boomers are retiring and we need a new workforce; apprenticeships are efficient and useful tools and programs should be expanded; need for fast track licenses and permits; ABC licensing fee can break some small businesses; lack of reciprocity with adjoining states; compare tax credit programs with other states; etc

VIII. Public Comment

The discussion was opened to public comment. The following topics were discussed: resources for retailers; town revitalizations for tourism; assessment study to find needs of small businesses;

IX. Next Meeting Date

The next subgroup meeting was set for Monday, August 16th at 2:00 PM in House Room1 of the State Capitol.

*****Note: Scheduling conflicts arose and this meeting has been moved to Tuesday, August 17th at 2:00 PM.*****

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.